CRUCIAL TEST OF THE BLACK RACE

BRIEF GLANCE BACKWARD

SOME BRAVE AIMOST TO CERTAIN DEATH.

None But Binck Men Were Found to Volunteer to Fight the Confederate Ram Merrimne on Board Old Wooden Ships-A Thrilling Incident of the Civil War.

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One of the principal questions in the historical debate of 1858, between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A Douglas was "whether a negro was a man?" Judge Douglas argued that he was not, and so not included in that clause of the declaration of independence which declares that 'all men are created Chief Justice Taney in the famous Dred Scott case, had put forth the same opinion. Two years later the negative of the question had become the shibboleth of a national party and raised an issue which could only be decided by civil war.

An event that occurred during my

residence in Washington in the stirring days of that civil war, proved to my own satisfaction, not only that the negro was a man, but when occasion demanded, a hero.

demanded, a hero.

In the first winter of the war General Wool was in command of Fortress Monroe. The inhabitants of the neighborhood had gone beyond the Confederate fines, leaving their slaves in desclution. These flocked by thousands to the Federal camps, where General Wool gave them food and shelter. Across the James river in the Norfolk mavy yards the Confederates were converting the steamer Merrimac into an iron-clad vessel. When completed, she was to come out of Norfolk harbor, alcack and sink all the vessels of the Federal fleet, control Chesapeake bay and all its tributaries, ascend the Potomac, capture Washington and end the war.

On March 8 the Merrimac began her recistiess though brief career of de-struction. Anxious faces bung over the telegraph in the navy department at Washington as it ticked off its unwel-

come messages. It said:
"The Congress has sunk—the Cumberland is aground and the Merrimac is riddling her with round shot and chell."
There was a pause and then the wire spoke again: "The Cumberland has attrack her colors."

struck her colors."

"Then Joe is dead," said a voice. It came from a gray haired man in naval nulform, who stood with bowed head, and we knew that the gallant son of brave old Commodore Smith, the young lieutenant in command of the Cumberland, had given his life to his country, then word came that the Merrimac, satisfied with her work, had retired into Norfolk harbor.

satisfied with her work, and retired into Norfolk harbor.

The duci between the Merrimac and the Monstor on the following day needs no description here. After it was over the wounded Merrimac crawled into

her harbor, but no one supposed her in-juries were beyond repair.

Preparations were at once made by the Federals for her next appearance, it was desirable not to expose the Mon-It was desirable not to expose the acon-tion to another battle until her injuries were repaired. The Merrimac must be sunk or destroyed. After many con-sultations the naval authorities decided upon the plan of attack that had been proposed by the gullant Lieutenant Smith a few days before his death.

Merrimac so close that if the old Cum-beriand goes down she'll have com-

What will happen to our ships that

ram het?" was asked.
"They will go to the bottom," said Smith. "The blow will open seams wide enough to let in a whole boat. My ship will sink anyway before she



be used to ram the Merrimac. Knowledge of these orders some way got to the crew at night. The next morning except his officers he had not a man on board. His crew had deserted in a

How the Negro Showed Himself to Have Manly Qualities.

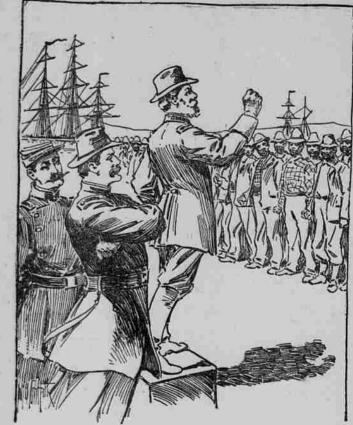
No braver man than Gadsen ever trod the deck of a vessel. Mortified and Indignant he stated his dilemma to the admiral of the fleet and asked for men. The admiral had not one man that he could spare. Gadsen read his orders again. He found that his ship had been cheritered by and that

erate camp, where the long roll was besten for an expected attack. It reached across and sent its echo back from the south side of the James. That note of triumph was never heard before. The spirit of freedom was abroad—for the first time in history she had summered the black race to fight for

No braver man than Gadsen ever trod the deck of a vessel. Mortified and Indignant he stated his dilemma to the admiral of the fiest and asked for men. The admiral had not one man that he could spare. Gadsen read his orders again. He found that his ship had been chartered by and that his orders came from the war office and not from the navy. Then he went to General Wool. But General Wool wanted 10,000 more men than he had. "Besides," he said, "my men are soldiers, and you cannot make them into sallors if I gave them to you."

"Trust me for that," said Gadsen. "Give me able-bodied men and I will thank you for them. I din't care whether they are white, black or particularly the said of the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the summoned the black race to fight for and protect her. This cheer was the answer to her trumpet call. Its echoes on more men than he could down the corridors of history. Only one man in seven could be taken. The chosen ones were triumphant, those who were not chosen were do the Arago. The whole camp, shouting, singing, praying, with every demonstration of joy. They proved to be willing workers and fully justified the confidence placed in them. They made allowed the black race to fight out of the black race to fight out of the black race to fight out of the protect her. This cheer was the answer to her treached and through all future time it proclaimed to mank in that the negro was a man.

Only one man in seven could be taken. The chosen ones were triumphant, that the ne



THE COLONEL PAUSED-THE MEN WERE AS SILENT AS THE GRAVE.

"I can furnish you with the men you want, I think," said the colonel, "but they must volunteer after the dangers of the service have been explained to them, and their position in your ship must be as good as that of the white men who have deserted."

AN APPEAL TO THE NEGROES.

Captain Gadsen agreed to that, "Very well," said the colonel, "come here in three hours. I may misjudge them, but I think you will get your

parted Colonel Camon summoned Cap-tain and Quartermaster Charles B. Wader, who was directly in charge of the contraband camp, and put the case

down yourself and we will manage it between us."

Two hours later Captain Wilder has side sturdy black men drawn up in a line. This was before emancipation, and every one of them was still a slave. "You have all of you seen the great bettlee hetween the Merrimac and the list the Merrimac is a powerful fighter. The Sandwich islanders assembled in the ward room of the Minnesota. "She is encased in a shell of rallroad and other iron bars which we could not break through even if we could not break through even if we could board her. We must make a dash at her and ram her with even thing we have that carries steam, with an open throttle and all the steam each one can carry. We would have a better show if the Congress and Cumberland had steam. But the Lord may give us will, and if he does the stout cld frigates will get there. If I once lay my ship alongside, I will lash her to the Merrimac so close that if the old Cumberland hard steam colors and considering and will volunteer to go on board that ships will volunteer to go on board that ships and room of days shell have com-

you were hungry, and gave you ciothes and work at good wages when you came into this camp cold and starved?" "Dat was you an Cappen Wilder," exclaimed many voices.

THE NEGROES' MANLY RESPONSE

"No!" said the colonel. "It was your country. It was this free government that we are fighting to preserve—that will make you free men if you will show that you deserve your freedom—if you will prove your manfried. But no people ever gained freedom without great sacrifices. Some of you will have to shed your blood, to lay alway your lives, for no great blessing of Victoria to hold newspaper clippings. you will have to shed your blood, to lay down your lives; for no great blessing like that of freedom was ever gained by any people without paying a great price for it. But every man who survives will be a hero, and those who fall will be counted among the marryrs who died for their country and the freedom of their race. It is a great henor that I am offering to fifty of you the privilege of going on board that when They Came Ashore the Negroef, Almost Worshipped Them.

Strikes her colors. If she sinks she will go down fighting."

"And what will become of the board care?"

"And what will become of the board care?"

"Some of the bravest will save their lives. The rest of us will chare the fate of all brave men who fight to win or die."

An unsarmored ship remaining an iron-cad would inevitably be sent to the bottom with all on board. Sallors do not like to face the certainty of death. Smith had insisted that his plan should be kept secret, fearing that its disclosure would lead to the wholesale desertion of the crews. The may all authorities followed his predent suggestions. It the early days of April four large steamships, the Vanderbilt, the Ericsson, the Illinois and the Arago, a chartered merchant vessel found upon opening his orders that his ship was to

"You don't care whether they are white or black?" repeated the general "We have a surplus of negroes. Come with me to my chief of staff. He believes in the negro and he runs the black department."

Gadsen went with General Wool and stated his case to Colonel Le Grande B. Cannor, chief of General Wool's staff.

"I can threak." would have had in their predecessors. L. P. CRITTENTON.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

There are nearly 7,000 miles of streets in London. There is only one sudden death

among women to eight among men. The wars of the last seventy years have cost Russia 1,775,000,000 and the lives of 664,000 men.

To be perfectly proportioned it is claimed that a man should weigh twenty-eight pounds to every foot of his height.

before him.

Captain Wilder entered upon the work as if he intended to accomplish it. "We will not fail," he said, "come down yourself and we will manage it between us."

face value.

The most densely settled state is Rhode Island, and the second Macsachusetts. The former has 318.44 inhabitants to the square mile, and the latter 278.48.

The thread on the cocoon of the slik worm is not wound around and around, as might be supposed, but irregularly here and there, as the worm moved his head to and fro within his self-made house. Many yards of thread may sometimes be unwound from the cocoon without turning it over at all.

the goodness of the Lord."—Christian Instructor.

LIQUOR ARITHMETIC—OBJECT LESSON.

"Boy at the head of the class, what are we paying for liquor as a nation?"

"Nine hundred million dollars answalls."

A doctor says that the big sleeves

Silk ribbons are used in the court of Victoria to hold newspaper clippings designed for the royal perusal. She never sees the papers in their original state. They are carefully perused by an official, who cuits out what he thinks will please her, pins the clippings on the ribbons and lays them on her table. table

There is a town on the Upper Snake river in Idaho called New Sweden. Hans Hansen is mayor of the town, Peter Petersen is cierk and the common council is composed of Peter Han-

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND THOUGHT.

AND SECULAR PRESS

Words of Wisdom and Thoughts Worth Pondering on Religious Churchman. and Moral Subjects.

BEYOND.

It seemeth such a little way to me Acress to that strange country, the Be-youd.

rey out
To that still dearer country of the dead,
And join the lost ones so long dreamed
about.
I love this world, yet shall I love to go
And meet the friends who wait for me, I
know.

And so for me there is no sting in death, And so the grave has lost its victory; It is but crossing o'er with bated breath And white, set face, a little strip of sea, To find the loved ones waiting on the

TRUSTWORTHY MEX.

Let it once be understood that a man is strictly trustworthy, that he can be counted on in all the ordinary emergencies of life, and confidence and man is strictly trustworthy, that he can be counted on in all the ordinary emergencies of life, and confidence and unlimited credit are within his reach. Many a man has a reputation of far greater value than a bank deposit, for that, by some accident, may be destroyed or diverted from its legitimate purpose, but the name is a guarantee for all its owner promises. In years past, when value had a more fixed standard, when there was less speculation and not so much of what is called "trading upon paper," as at present, the statement that a man's word was as good as his bond was word was as good as his bond was more common than it is nowadays. To have this said of a man, especially one who is comparatively young, is the greatest compliment that can be paid him.—Presbyterian Banner.

It does not pay to hung one citizen because another citizen sells him

there is any portion of a bank equal to three-fifths of its original remaining it is redeemable at its ode Island, and the second Macual asets. The former has 318.44 inbitants to the square mile, and the fier 278.48.

The letters in the various alphabets the world vary from twelve to 202 mumber. The Sandwich islanders johabet has twelve, the Tartarian 222.

Professor Booteasy says: Cats die it an elevation of 13,000 feet, even though they are reputed to have "mine lives" when on a level with the ocean. Dogs and men can climb the greatest known elevations.

An evidence of the striking uniforming of size among the Japanese is found in the fact that recent measurements taken of an infantry regiment ments all the lime.—The American Education of the said of

mac until you send her to the bottom?

We want to know the worth of yearselves and your country. Now who of
a you will volunteer to go on board that
slip and take the places of the desertentry.

The machine to man moved—not a sign of emotion was shown on the sphinx-like
taces. There was no response to Captan Wilder's appeal.

Colonel Camon, was more than disappointed. 'Is it true, then,' he asiece
himself, 'that the negro is a mere animal to be driven like an ox to his accustomed task, and worthess for any
other? that he had no manhood—no
couragre? Then he reflected. 'Por
generations these men have been mere
slaves with no will will not give them up on a
slingle trial.

An electrical machine for cutting
entry.

The most negro is a man and white
menes? I will not give them up on a
single trial.

The most negro is a man and while
white men come out of such experiences? I will not give them up on a
single trial.

The most negro is a man and while
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The most negro is a man and while when
white men come out of such experiences? I will not give them up on a
single trial.

The most negro is a more animal to be driven like an ox to his accustomed task, and worthess for any
other? that he had no manhood—no
couragre? Then he reflected. 'Por
generations these men have been mere
slaves with no will; most open to the coloning its
they could call their own. How would
white men come out of such experiences? I will not give them up on a
single trial.

The most negro is an an intent in
the mounted to the coloning that
the mounted the proposed in the
faces of the silent mass. "Men! Who
was it,' he asked, 'that ted you when
you we've hungry, and gave you donner.

The trial will keep to dear in the
said:

The pool man prevented in skind:

The produces of Ged is infinite and
extrads to all men. He sendeth is
refin upon the just and unjust. He preserves in life to pool and ba alike.

The world' that he sent his son to die.

"Miles of what?"

"One thousand five hundred and seventsen, Peter Hanse Petersen. Peter Hanse and Peter Hansen Hans Petersen. No relationship exists among these men.

PROPHETIC.

PROPHETIC.

Quick o'er the hills the startled daylight springs, The slumbrous night-bird folds her droway wings;

With eager haste th' unwary mist dispets, And inconse-breathing earth shakes off her daw;

Wanton day the Resourcestion of the results of the person of the per

There are many ways in which obsti-

There are many ways in which obstinacy may reveal itself. One is by a quibbling and desreputable style of conversation—a tendency to contradict every remark, and in any case to say the last word. Few things are more aggravating than this. It is hardly possible to converse with some persons without merging into controversy. It is a petty arguing of trifles, altogether unworthy of debate. To find one's self questioned at every turn, every word disputed, every assertion doubted, is to some of us more annoying than downright blackguardism. It may be fear-

in reality it is nothing but meanners and folly. Obstinacy breeds many in weeds; this is not one of the least.—

CALLS FROM THE PULPIT.

Congregations do not like to hear One complained that the minister had four times in a year spoken from the yond.

And yet not strange, for it has grown to be.

The home of those of whom I am so fond;

They make it seem familiar and most dear.

As journeying friends bring distant countries near.

One complained that the minister had four times in a year spoken from the pulpit about the duty of giving more liberally. Well, the trouble was that they had not given enough, and his duty was to train them into this grace also. Wesley's mother is said to have repeated a lesson to him twenty times. The father asked why she said it over so often, and she replied: "Because nineteen times were not enough." If the people were up to duty in alms-So close it lies that when my sight is clear

I think I see the gleaming strand;
I know, I feel, that those who've gone from here
Come near enough to touch my hand;
I often think, but for our veiled eyes, We should find heaven right around us lies.

Indeteen times were not enough." I the people were up to duty in alms, deeds that would be enough to keep the pressing calls out of the pulpit.—Referred Church Messenger.

HELPING THE FALLEN.

We ought to pray for and help all that we possibly can there for

from right living; and charity to those cast away is our bounder duty and the prompting of every merciful heart. Yet, no man will say in the face of the history of individuals, as each one of us has known them, but that to prevent wrong-doing is more in keeping with God's commandments and His glory than ever the reclaiming of those strayed from his service.—The Messenger of St. Joseph. ger of St. Joseph.

shore.

More beaut ful; more precious than before.

TRISTWORTHY MEX.

O patient God, whom men forsake.
All kind, all gracious, as thou art.
How soon our faithlessness would break.
A human heart?

LEARNING HOW TO DENY YOURSELF The secret of success is to know how to deny yourself. If you once learn to get the whiphand of yourself that is the best educator. Prove to me that you can control yourself, and I'll, say you're an educated man; and without this all other education is next to nothing.—Miss Ollphant.

GROWING GOOD OF THE WORLD.

The growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts, and that things are no so ill with you and me as they might have been is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life and rest in unvisited tombs.—George Eliot.

When one has learned to seek the honor that cometh from God only, he will take the withholding of the honor that comes from man very quietly indeed.—George Macdonaid.

HONOR THAT COMES FROM GOD.

liquor.

It does not pay to have one citizen confined in the county jail because another citizen sold him liquor.

It does not pay to have one citizen placed in the lunatic asylum because another citizen sold him liquor.

It does not pay to have fifty workingmen ragged in order to have one saloon-keeper, dressed in broadcloth and flush with money.

It does not pay to have fifty working the content of the will take the withholding of the honor that comet have the with take the withholding of the honor that comet have comet have the with take the withholding of the honor that comet have with take the withholding of the honor that comet have the with take the withholding of the honor that comet have the withholding of the will take the withholding of the honor that comet have with take the withholding of the will take the withholding of the wi

LIQUOR ARITHMETIC-OBJECT LESSON.

"Boy at the head of the class, what are we paying for liquor as a nation?"

"New heads of million dellars and hastened to the street of milder glass to first stopping at the looking glass to are we paying for liquor as a nation?"

"Nine hundred million dollars annually."

"Step to the blackboard, my boy.
First take a rule and measure this silver dollar. How thick is it?"

"Nearly an eighth of an inch."

"Well, sir, how many of them, can you put in an inch?"

"Between eight and nine."

"Give me the benefit of the doubt:

"Between eight and nine."

"Give me the benefit of the doubt; call it nine. How many inches would it require to pile these \$300,000,000 in?"

"One hundred million inches."

"How many feet would that be?"

"Flight million three hundred and thirty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three.

"How many rods is that?"

"Flive hundred and five thousand and fifty rods."

"How many miles is that?"

"One thousand five hundred and seventy-eight miles,"

"One thousand five hundred and seventy-eight miles of silver dollars, laid down, packed closely together, our liquor bill would make, This is only one year's grog bill."

"Patrick's Day.

Then like a lovely mirage thrown before her homesick eyes. She saw, with thatched and mossy roof, her native cabin rise.

She saw, with thatched and mossy roof, her native cabin rise.

She saw, with thatched and mossy roof, her native cabin rise.

And leaning by the village well she watched with sourkling eye

Among St. Patrick's gallant sons her swetheart marching by.

Her bosom swelled with loving pride, he looked so bold and say:

"One thousand five hundred and seventy-eight miles,"

"He watched with sourkling eye

"Her bosom swelled with loving pride, he looked so bold and say:

"He played "The Wearing of the Green"

"Upon St. Patrick's Day.

At twilight, by the broken stile beneath the windy boughs,

They were cabin rise.

"He watched with sourkling eye

"He watched with loving pride, he looked so bold and say:

"He played "The Wearing of the Green"

"Upon St. Patrick's Day.

At twilight, by the broken stile beneath the windy boughs,

They were cabin rise.

Its Merits Recognized by

ed that certain minds, not the noblest, take a delight in this insignificant war of words. This stubborn conflict over every inch of ground. We are not all so constituted. It is a species of unworthy obstinacy, which all well-meaning persons should endeavor to stamp out. A pairry love of contradiction and denial may seem clever in the eyes of those who cultivate it, but in reality it is nothing but meanness Clothes?

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